desh, Nagaland, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Manipur, Meghalaya, Arunachal Pradesh, Gujarat, Mizoram, Chandigarh, Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Lakshadweep The Government of Maharashtra have decided to abolish Octroi with effect from 31-5-1988.

The State Governments of Rajasthan, Gujarat, Karnataka have introduced one-time levy of road-tax on personalized vehicles. The States of Maharashtra and Punjab have introduced the same on certain categories of personalized vehicles. The others have initiated action.

As regards establishment of a National *Highway Authority, the Government of* India is considering a proposal to set up such an Authority. The proposal is in a preliminary stage

Arrears of Telephone Bills

1241. SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question 1261 in Rajya Sabha on 5th August, 1987 and state what are the arrears of telephone bills as on October 31, 1987 towards each of the Ex-M Ps, former Ministers/Ex-Governors, and also the Political parties which are recognised by the election Commission at the Central/State levels ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV) : The information has been called for from all the units throughout the country and will be laid on the Table of the House as early as possible.

Pay parity of the Ayurvedic and Homoeopathic Doctors with Allopathic in C.G.H.S.

1242 SHRI LAL K. ADVANI :
SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state .

(a) whether the Fourth Pay Commission have recommended that degree holders in Ayurvedic and Homoeopathic systems should have the same pay-scales as of M.B.B.S. Doctors under the Central Government Health Service and method of their recruitment should be on the same pattern;

(b) date on which this recommendation was received and what is the progress made so far; and

(c) when is the notification in this regard is likely to be issued ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE) : *(a) Yes, Sir*

(b) The Fourth Pay Commission submitted their recommendations to the Government on 30-6-86.

(c) No definite date for issue of notification can be given at this stage as the matter requires examination by different Ministries.

Loss of revenue due to suspension of trains in Tamil Nadu

1243. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) what is the estimated loss of revenu suffered by Railways due to the suspension of train services in Tamil Nadu fo 24 hours on the 24th October, 1987 following rail blockade agitation called by th DMK; and

(b) what action Government have take to improve the earning of Railways ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF TH MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) Ra ways do not maintain figures of earnin train-wise and as such loss cannot be es mated

(b) The measures taken to increase t earnings of Railways include improvem in the overall operating efficiency, bet utilisation of assets and carriage of ad tional traffic